ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

Once Upona Time PRICE 1/8



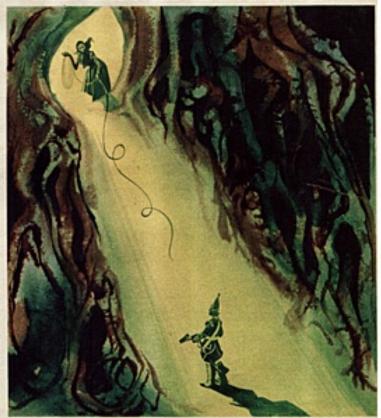


1. Now the brave soldier was in the third of the rooms under the hollow oak tree, and here he came upon the dog with eyes as big as round towers, and they kept rolling round and round like wheels. "Good evening," said the soldier, and he touched his cap in great respect, for he had never seen such a monster dog as this before. "You had better not stare at me so—it will make your eyes weak."

2. The soldier stood looking at the huge dog for a minute or two, then slipped the old witch's apron along the floor until it came to rest beneath one of the dog's paws. At once the dog stopped growling and rolling its eyes. "Thank goodness the witch spoke the truth about her apron," thought the soldier to himself, with a sigh of relief. "Without it I could never have tamed this one!"



3. Then he looked at the chest which the dog had been guarding. It was full of gold coins, enough to buy anything in the world that he wanted. Laughing, he emptied the knapsack of the silver coins and put the gold ones in instead. What a weight it was!



4. Picking up the old tinder box, he hurried along the passageways to the slope that led up to the hollow oak tree. "Hello, old witch," he shouted. "Pull me up again." "Have you brought the tinder box with you, soldier?" He told her that he had indeed.



5. But once he got to ground level again, the soldier would not give it to her. "Just tell me," he said, "what you are going to do with this old tinder box." "That's no concern of yours," replied the old witch. "You've got your money, so give me that tinder box this instant." The soldier started to draw his sword. "If you won't tell me then you shan't have it." he exclaimed.



7. Left, right! Left, right! He marched proudly up to the front entrance of the finest inn in the town. Two of the servants saw him coming and could not help thinking that the soldier might be making a mistake and could not really afford to enter such a place like a grand gentleman. But when he brought out one of the gold coins, they bowed and welcomed him inside without delay.



6. The witch screamed and raged, but there was nothing she was able to do about it. Away went the soldier with the tinder box and his knapsack crammed with gold coins and presently he came within sight of a large town. A very handsome town it was, too. "It looks a likely place for me to spend a little of my money," he chuckled. "I'll be able to eat and sleep like a millionaire."



8. In walked the soldier and he called for two of the best rooms in the place. Satisfied with these, he then went down into the dining-room and ordered the choicest and the most expensive dishes for his supper. A king could not have been treated better. Our soldier was now a very rich man—but that was not to be the end of his adventures with the tinder box.









and a lovely Mayor's robe with a real gold chain."

"Yummy-yummy, I like the sound of that," chuckled Brer Rabbit. "And I reckon I'd look real good in a robe with a gold chain."

"Well, it's lucky we have a Mayor's robe right here for you to try on," said Brer Bear.

Just for a moment Brer Rabbit was thinking about it and was all dreamy-eyed. And in that short space of time Brer Bear picked up a big sack and popped it over Brer Rabbit's head.

"Try that for size, Mister clever Brer Rabbit," he laughed.

So that's how Brer Rabbit was caught, and they soon had the sack tied-up with string to stop him getting out.

"And now for the next part of the great plot," smiled Brer Fox. "I'll carry the sack way down the river to the town where my cousin Willy Fox lives. Then I'll drop the sack into the river and while Brer Rabbit is being carried along it down to the sea I'll spend the night with my cousin."

It was a long, long way but Brer Fox did not seem to mind the hard work of carrying the sack on his back, though he puffed and he panted when the sun got hotter and hotter.

Inside the sack Brer Rabbit was thinking all the time of how he could get out.

"It's mighty warm work for you out there, Brer Fox," he said from inside the sack. "I reckon you'll be getting real thirsty." "There'll be plenty of time for me to think about a drink when I've popped you in the river," answered Brer Fox. "And, come to think of it, you'll have lots to drink, too."

"There's a shop not far from the river that sells lemonade," said Brer Rabbit. "It's lovely lemonade and always icecool."

Brer Fox tried not to listen to him, but it really was hard and thirsty work carrying that sack. After a while he began to lick his lips and when he got to the shop he just could not resist any longer.

He left the sack outside and went in for a glass of lemonade. Now, Brer Rabbit hoped that it would give him time to nibble through the strings and get free but he was shocked when he felt someone poking at him through the sacking.

"Who's in there?" asked a voice and it was so like Brer Fox's voice that Brer Rabbit guessed that it must belong to cousin Willy Fox.

"It's only me," Brer Rabbit answered.
"What are you doing inside that sack?"

"It's because I'm so shy that I'm in here," replied Brer Rabbit.

"What are you shy about?" asked Cousin Fox.

"I'm shy about being made the new Mayor," said Brer Rabbit. "Everybody says I would be a very good Mayor and wear a fine robe with a gold chain and go to big banquets and make speeches, but I'm so shy that I don't think I could become such an important person as

that. They don't want me to refuse and that's why they're taking me along in this sack to MAKE me be the new Mayor."

There was a bit of a silence from outside the sack after this, and then Cousin Fox said, "Well, I'd like to be Mayor and have all those lovely things. I'm not shy."

"Well, you couldn't be Mayor unless you changed places with me," said Brer Rabbit.

"Please let me!" begged Cousin Fox. So they changed places. Cousin Fox popped into the sack, and after Brer Rabbit had tied the top up he hid round the side of the shop and watched Brer Fox come out.

"I'm going to be Mayor," came a muffled voice from inside the sack as Brer Fox put it on his shoulder.

"That's right," Brer Fox laughed. "You can be Mayor of the river."

And he carried his cousin to the river bank (with Brer Rabbit tip-toeing along behind) and threw the sack in.

"Goodbye, Brer Rabbit," said Brer Fox.
"Hello, Brer Fox," said Brer Rabbit
from behind a tree. "Who was that you
were saying goodbye to?"

Brer Fox gave a loud howl, and as he dashed along the river bank to get hold of the sack and rescue his cousin Willy, Brer Rabbit hop-skipped home quite happily.

"I reckon I'm smart enough to be Mayor of any place," he laughed.

Another chuckle with Brer Rabbit next week.



This is a Memory Test. Read it carefully and then turn to page 16 and try to answer the questions about it.

The Brooch and the Magpie

NCE there was a little girl named Alice, who lived in a big house. She was very lonely, because she had no one to play with at all. She had plenty of toys and games, but they were not the same as playmates, for they could not talk to her.

Not far from Alice's garden there was a big tree, in which a magpie had made its nest. It was a noisy, mischievous, inquisitive bird and it often perched on Alice's window-ledge and chattered noisily at her.

One day, Alice's father brought her a lovely present. It was a brooch. Alice was delighted. She put it on the dressing-table in her bedroom and it glittered and sparkled in the sunshing.

Alice went off to play with her toys and it was some time before she went back to her bedroom. She went straight to the dressing-table, to look at her lovely brooch but, to her horror, it had gone.

Poor Alice. She WAS upset. Who could have taken her brooch. She racked her brains to think where it might have got to.

Just then the magpie flew down and perched on the window-ledge, cackling loudly. The window was open and Alice suddenly remembered how inquisitive magpies were and how they loved bright, shiny things. At once, she decided to go and look for its nest. Off she went, down the garden path and out through the gate. It wasn't long before she saw the tree with the magpie's nest, for the nest was easy to see. It looked just like a big, untidy bundle of sticks, in a forked branch of the tree. The trouble was, it was well above Alice's reach and she was not very good at climbing.

"Hello," said a voice just behind Alice. It made her jump. She turned round and there was a boy about her own age. "That's the magpie's nest," said the boy. "He's a great thief, you know. He's always stealing things and hiding them in his nest."

"Oh," said Alice. "Oh dear!"

"Why?" asked the boy. "Has he taken something of yours?"

Alice explained about her lovely new brooch. "I thought perhaps the magple might have taken it, but I can't climb up to the nest to find out." she said.



. "Oh, that's all right, I can climb up there easily," said the boy. And with that, up he went. He was soon down again and in his hand he held something bright and shiny. "Is that yours?" he asked.

Alice was pleased. There, in his hand, he held her brooch. She was glad to get it back again, but, even better, she found that the boy, whose name was Peter, lived in a cottage down the lane and he was lonely too, for he had no one to play with either.

After that, Peter often came to play with Alice and her toys, and in return he taught Alice to climb trees just as well as he did. They were both very pleased with the thieving magple, for they were never lonely again.

ARE YOU MISSING SOME COPIES OF "ONCE UPON A TIME"?

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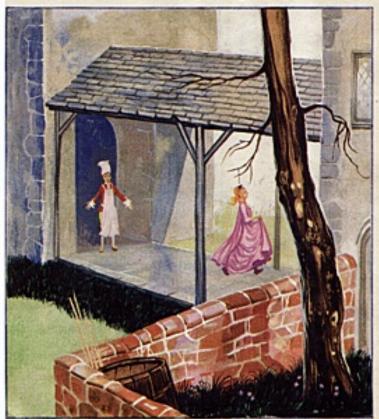
The Princess and the Pantry Boy



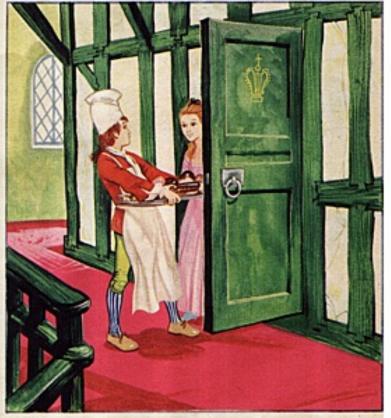
 Once there was a Princess called Delia, who loved sweet things so much that all day long she munched chocolates and cakes and sweets. She ate so many, that she never had room to eat her meals when they were served. At last, her parents grew very cross with her.



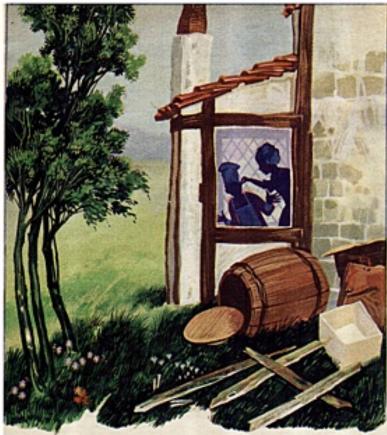
"In future, you will eat only proper meals, no more sweets and cakes," said the Queen. After two days of this, all Delia could think of was cakes, so she went to the royal pantry and asked Colin, the pantry-boy, to send her up a plate of the richest cakes.



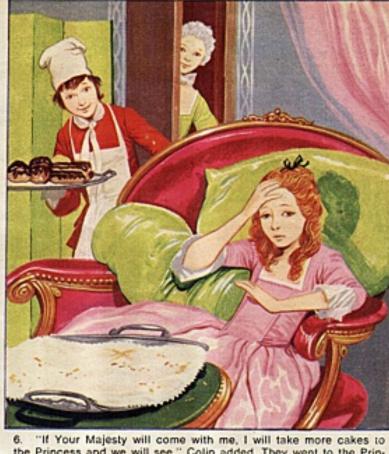
 "I'm sorry, Your Highness, I can't," said Colin, for he had heard the Oueen telling the cook that the Princess was to have no more cakes. Delia was furious at having her commands disobeyed by a mere pantry-boy. "Do as I ordered," she snapped, as she went out.



4. "What a rude, unpleasant girl," thought Colin and he filled a plate with the richest cakes he could find and took them up to the Princess. "You have chosen well," she smiled, for she was feeling sorry she had been so rude and she offered Colin a cake.



5. However, a page had seen where Colin took the tray and he rushed off to tell the Queen. She was furious, and stormed into the royal pantry. "How dare you give the Princess cakes?" she said angrily. "I do not think the Princess will want more," said Colin.



 "If Your Majesty will come with me, I will take more cakes to the Princess and we will see," Colin added. They went to the Princess's room. "I have brought you more cakes," said Colin. "Oh. I have eaten too many. I never want to see another cake," said Delia.



7. Then the Queen saw how clever Colin had been. The Princess had eaten so many cakes that she had made herself feel quite ill. She couldn't face another cake. "You are too clever to be a pantry-boy. I think." said the Queen. "Can he be my page?" asked Delia.



The Queen agreed and Delia was pleased, for she liked Colin.
 As the years passed, the whole Royal Family grew very fond of him, and when Delia and Colin fell in love, the King agreed that they should marry nobody minding that Colin had been just a pantry-boy.



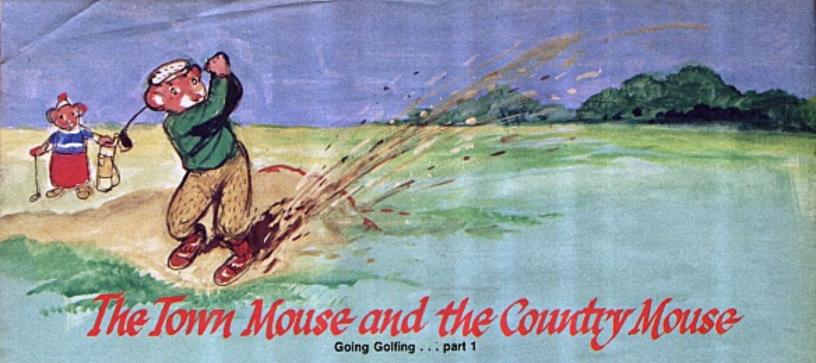
Beautiful Paintings

Here is an interesting beautiful picture for readers of Once Upon A Time to cut out and keep. It was painted by an artist named A. W. Cooper and it shows a man, seated on the left, who has just come into a house with some freshly-caught fish. The other man is giving instructions as to how the fish should be cooked for their supper—and he should

know all about such things, for he is Izaak Walton, a famous British author who wrote a book called "The Compleat Angler" about 300 years ago. Hanging on the back of the fisherman's chair is a basket into which fish are put when they are caught. This kind of fish-basket is called a creel.

A Tudor Soldier





STEPHANIE, the very elegant town mouse, was having breakfast. It was a pleasant summer day and she had the window open.

"Now what shall I do to amuse myself for the rest of the day?" she was wondering to herself. "I could go to the flower show or to the dress shop to buy myself a new collection of lovely clothes."

Stephanie liked to get around and show off a bit—not like her cousin Winifred, the quiet mouse who lived in the country. Stephanie rather looked down on her. The things which Winifred thought attractive were cups of tea and home-made cakes.

She was thinking about this when in through the window came a small white object travelling at great speed. It went whizzing past the end of Stephanie's nose, bounced against the wall and came flying back to the table, where it went plink-plink-plonk on the teapot and hotwater jug.

"My goodness me!" gasped Stephanie.
Then came a ring at the doorbell. Very flustered. Stephanie went to answer it, and when she opened the door there stood her posh neighbour, Mrs. Topdrawer, with her husband.

"Please may I have my ball back?" asked Mr. Topdrawer.

"Ball? What sort of ball?" Stephanie asked. "And what's that you are holding, the pair of you?"

Mrs. Topdrawer smirked.

"These are our new golf clubs," she said. "My husband and I have decided to take up the game of golf, you know, and we were practising in the garden when I hit the ball with great force and sent it sailing through your window. It was a most marvellous shot, really it was."

"Marvellous shot?" screeched Stephanie, "It nearly bent the end of my nose and could have ruined my best teapot."

Mrs. Topdrawer clicked her tongue.
"Oh, you mustn't worry about things

like that, my dear," she said in her haughty manner. "Everybody has teapots, but not everybody plays golf, it's the proper thing to do now, you know. My husband and I have joined a golf club and we expect to be playing with the Duke and Duchess of Barkington. They are members, too, you know."

"We'll be going in for competitions," piped up Mr. Topdrawer, popping in and picking up the golf-ball from Stephanie's carpet. "It's a great honour to win a golf prize. Good morning!"

They had no sooner gone than Stephanie telephoned her boy-friend, Nigel.

"Nigel, can you play golf?" she asked.
"Golf? Isn't that the—er—game where
you walk around trying to bash a little
white ball into a hole?" replied Nigel.
"Seems a bit of a waste of time to me,
old thing."

Stephanie sniffed. "Don't call me 'old thing'," she said. "Let me tell you that from this very moment you are going to take up golf with me, and we'll play a lot better than stupid Mrs. Topdrawer and her husband, who think they're very clever at it. I expect you to be round in half an hour with two lots of sticks, or whatever you call the thing golfers hit the ball with."

Nigel never argued with Stephanie when she was in a mood to do something. He drove up to her house in his splendid car half an hour later and brought with him two sets of golf clubs and some golf halfs.

"Take them out in the garden," Stephanie told him. "I'll show that Mrs. Topdrawer. I'll send a ball right through her window and take the top off her best teapot."

As always, Stephanie felt very sure of herself, but she soon found that it was not all that easy to hit a golf ball.

"The ball is much too small-what silly chump invented a game like this?" she said, angrily swishing the club at it and missing by a long way. "Show me what to do Nigel."

Nigel tried, too, but only succeeded in knocking a lump of grass out of the lawn.

"Oops! There's not really enough room to play here," he said as an excuse. "Your garden isn't big enough."

"H'm! Perhaps you're right," Stephanie agreed. "We need a lot more open space for golf and I know where I can find it. We're going to cousin Winifred's place. Out there in the country they've got lots of land—and that's where you and I are going to practise and become golf champions. We'll jolly well show the Topdrawers a thing or two. Come along, Nigel, start up the car and drive fast."

See what happens next week in another part of this merry mouse story.

Here are the Memory Test questions from the story "The Brooch and the Magpie" on page 9. How many can you answer correctly?

- What was the name of the little girl who lived in the big house?
- What did the magpie's nest in the tree look like?
- 3. What was the name of the boy who climbed up to get the brooch?

YOUR EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Boys and Girls.

How are you enjoying the story of "The Tinder Box"? I find it most exciting to read and I can hardly walt until next week to see what happens to the soldier now that he has found the tinder box. No doubt you will also be wanting to see next week's copy of Once Upon A Time.

Your friend. The Editor.



The King's Readache



Once upon a time there was a young king, who was very unhappy. His father had decreed that all the men in the land must serve in the army. Every day, they had to march out on parade behind the band, while the young king took the salute, on his horse.



The soldiers were miserable, for they hated marching and parading day after day. The king was miserable, for he got no peace. Day and night, there was the sound of drums and trumpets and marching feet and cannons, and soldiers coming to him for their orders.



Even if the king went for a ride in the country, he was accompanied by soldiers, with trumpets and drums, which they were always blowing and banging. How the king's head ached. It was so noisy that he never seemed to have a minute's peace. He couldn't even stop to listen to the birds, for they all flew away.



4. One day, on one of these noisy rides into the country, the king's horse decided she had had enough of trumpets and drums and noise and suddenly, without any warning, she took to her heels and galloped away. The king hung on for dear life. On and on she went, up hill and down dale, until they came to a large lake.



 There, the horse finally stopped, for a drink. It was very peaceful among the trees. There were lovely flowers and gay butterflies all around. The king was miles from his noisy soldiers. How he did enjoy it, as he looked around in wonder.



7. However, as he was king, he had to return to his palace, but when he got back he immediately made a new decree—all soldiers were to take off their uniforms and become gardeners. All the trumpets and swords were to be turned into forks and rakes, and the drums and helmets were to be made into flower pots.



 For the first time, he could hear the singing of the birds and the whispering of the breeze among the trees. He threw off his heavy uniform, flung away his sword and danced for joy. His headache had completely gone and he had never been so happy.



8. The parade ground was turned into a wonderful garden, which soon became famous throughout the whole world. All the people were so happy, now that they no longer had to be soldiers. The king's head never ached, because it was so peaceful, and visitors came from far and wide to enjoy the beauty of the garden.

The WISE OLD OWL

Knows all the answers



The Wise Old Owl is here to answer some of your puzzling questions.



Why does a ski-jumper lean forward when making a jump?
 On a ski-jump, a skier may drop more than a hundred feet, which would normally mean instant death, but the skier falls horizontally, arms stretched wide and this, together with his long skis, gives a parachute effect, which reduces the speed of his fall. It also gives him balance."



2. Who was the Good Samaritan?

"In the story told by Jesus, the Good Samaritan was the man who stopped to care for the injured Jewish traveller, attacked by robbers. Other Jews had passed by, pretending not to see him."



4. How old are Nursery Rhymes?

"Many nursery rhymes are several hundred years old and have been passed on from one generation to another for centuries. 'Sing a Song of Sixpence' has been a favourite for about 450 years."



3. What does a River Pilot do?

"Ships entering the mouth of a large river, like the Thames, are required to take on a river pilot, who knows the tides, currents, channels and buoys and guides the ship up to the docks."



. Which bird has the biggest wings?

"Although the Albatross has the longest wingspan, the Condor, shown above, which lives in South America, actually has bigger wings, because they are wider and so cover more space."